Vol. IV. Numb. 13

The EXAMINER.

From Friday *June* 26, to Monday *June* 29, 1713.

——Quis ſub Arcto
Rex gelidæ metuatur oræ. Horace.
Tu pias lætis animas reponis
Sedibus.—— Horace.

THERE is all the Reaſon in the World to expect that whatever Propoſals are offer'd for Strengthening and Enlarging the *Proteſtant Intereſt* in *Europe*, under a Government, which hath eſpous'd that Cauſe with ſuch a hearty Zeal, and given ſo many Proofs of an entire Affection for the pure *Reformed Church*, will, at leaſt, be received with all the Candour and Indulgence, which is due to the Merit of an honeſt Meaning, in an Affair of ſo much Conſequence to *Her Majeſty* and her People. The Time has been, when no Projects of this kind were Advanc'd and Countenanc'd, but ſuch only as carried a ſecret Ill-will to the *Church* of *England* along with them, and were Founded in a pernicious *Latitude* and *Comprehenſion*, that muſt in time have thrown down all her Fences, to make room for the ſeveral *Sects* and *Schiſms* at home, and every Defective Plan of the *Reformation* abroad; whereby the common Enemy had a fair Opportunity given them to be let in at one of thoſe deadly Breaches. But, God be thank'd, this *Babel* and its Builders are no more; and we are now at liberty to ſtrengthen the old Foundations, by removing every ſandy Superſtructure, and reſtoring the Plan to its Primitive *Compactneſs*, *Proportion*, *Beauty*, and *Order*: For on theſe *Four Pillars* the whole Structure leans; and by this Draught Men build for Eternity.

To propoſe any thing that may be for the Security and Advantage of the *Proteſtant Religion*, is indeed talking in the Language of the *Preſent Miniſtry*; who have been ever moſt Zealous, as they are beſt able to ſettle that Intereſt upon a laſting and immoveable Baſis. All that has been ſaid upon this Subject by the *Whigs*, is meer Noiſe and Clamour: They will neither tell us where the Danger, nor what the Security is, which is ſtill wanting, as the laſt Support and *Barrier* for the *Proteſtant Religion*; but they ſtick to the general Topick of Crying and Complaining, according to that known Rule, *Dolus verſatur in Univerſalibus*. They alarm us with groundleſs Fears and Jealouſies, with Bugbears and *Chimera's*; and cry *Popery*, juſt as Madmen or Stroll-ing Drunkards cry *Fire*, without being able to tell in what *Street* or *Ally* it broke out, or which Way the Flames of *Enſurance*, or Train belonging to the *Pariſh-Engine* and *Buckets*, ſhall ſteer their Courſe, in order to put a ſtop to the growing Miſchief. But their Conduct is no more to be follow'd than their Principles; and I ſhould be inexcuſable, if I committed an Error by ſo glaring and Exploded a Precedent. I muſt therefore be very particular on this Head; and I ever thought it my neareſt Concern, as *Proteſtants*, to maintain and ſupport the *Church* of *England*, in the full Poſſeſſion and Exerciſe of all thoſe Rights and Immunities, which it claims by Inheritance from the *Primitive Apoſtolical Church*; and alſo in the Enjoyment of whatever Privileges and Dignities *Her Majeſty* and *Her* Royal Progenitors have beſtow'd on Her, and which are neceſſary to its very Being, in the Preſervation of Truth, Unity, Reaſonable Vertue, Moral Honeſty, and Practical Religion. The *Church* of *England*, thus ſupported, would be the beſt *Barrier* and ſtrongeſt Rampart againſt Popery; whoſe Attacks muſt convince us, which of their Foes they eſteem moſt Formidable: Whilſt the *Reform'd* abroad have ever had an Eye to us as their Leaders, and look'd on our Church as the Van-guard of the *Proteſtant Cauſe*. She is worthy of the beſt Favours of the Greateſt Monarch, as ſhe has been a conſtant Partner in all the Sufferings of the *Crown*, ever adher'd to the Royal Intereſt in the worſt of Times, and as She is all Loyalty and Obedience Herſelf, teaches the ſame inviolable eternal Truths to others, and is at utter enmity with Strife, Anarchy, Confuſion, and whatever elſe may obſtruct or overturn the Peace and Welfare of Societies. For theſe Reaſons, whilſt the remembrance of a happy Deliverance, and the Senſe of repeated Favours, which the Church profeſſes to owe to a good and gracious QUEEN, and a wiſe and vigilant *Miniſtry*, tranſports us to a Rapture of Gratitude, it is at leaſt a pardonable Zeal in us, to preſs for the accompliſhment of thoſe pious Purpoſes, which are to enſure our future Happineſs; and which Providence and Time, co-operating with human Endeavours, can alone ripen to Perfection. This we may ſtill wiſh for and pant after, ſince *Her Majeſty*, in moſt of Her *Gracious Anſwers* to the *late Addreſſes*, hath, in a particular manner, recommended *the Care of Religion* to all in Authority under Her.

Next to the *Church* of *England*, which is the Breath of our Noſtrils, the Apple of our Eye, and which we are to guard and ſuccour, as we would the Vitals of our Conſtitution, the *Reformed Churches* abroad plead a ſtrong Title to our Friendſhip, and regard for their Intereſts. Of theſe the moſt worthy our Eſteem are ſuch of them, as neareſt reſemble us in the Plan and Model of *Church-Government*: On which account we cannot but be extreamly concern'd for the Peace and Welfare of the *Northern Crowns*, whoſe Subjects have given ſuch Proofs of their ſteddy adherence to the Rights of *Monarchy* and *Epiſcopacy*, and their regard for the Divine Authority and Original of thoſe two Powers; whereby they forfeited the good Opinion of a *late predominant Party*, whoſe Principles will not ſuffer them to maintain any ſort of Alliance with *Loyaliſts* and *Epiſcopalians*: So that they have now a very long arrear of Friendſhip due to them from *Great Britain*. 'Tis true we are not immediately concerned in the Quarrel between *Denmark* and *Sweden*; but yet both We and the *Proteſtant Religion* may be too nearly concerned in the Iſſue and Conſequences of it. All the Bloodſhed, Devaſtations and Rapine, which now over-ſpread the *North*, are a Drawback out of the *Reform'd* Intereſt, and by weakning that Cauſe, ſerve to turn the Ballance to the ſide of *Popery*. We have ſeen already what Cauſe the *Dane* has had to repent of his Alliance with *Muſcovy*; and no wonder he was alarm'd with General *Steinbock*'s approach, when he was to be follow'd by an Ally to *Denmark*, almoſt as formidable as the moſt Powerful Enemy. Should the King of *Sweden*'s Intereſt prevail at the *Port*, by way of Counterballance; and bring the *Turk* into *Poland*, as a Match for the *Muſcovite*,

vite, he too in his Turn might bewail the Succeſs of that Alliance; and the *Two Seconds* in the War, in time devour their *Principals*. After which, the *Northern Crowns* would be the occaſion of bringing down a Foe upon *Europe*, more formidable than the *Goths* and *Vandals*, their Anceſtors. *Popery* muſt then of neceſſity be our laſt reſort; and what a Deliverance would that prove to the *Reform'd*? Here then is all the reaſon in the World for the *Proteſtant Powers* to interpoſe, either as *peaceful* or *warlike Mediators*. Upon ſuch of them be the Blame, who had rather come down to have their Throats cut among *Papiſts*, than march to put an end to a Difference, ſo fatal to the Common Cauſe of Religion: When there is no reaſon to doubt, but any Demands, for the Charges of the Expedition, would be comply'd with by the *Hans-Towns* and *Provinces* bordering upon the *Baltick*, who had rather pay one Deliverer once, than raiſe alternate Contributions for many Invaders, according as they are viſited either by *Dane* or *Swede*, *Turk* or *Muſcovite*.

The *Popiſh Powers* were too quick-ſighted not to diſcern the favourable Juncture, which offer'd it ſelf from the *North*, and readily imagin'd they had as much Right to interpoſe, as any other Neighbouring Barbarians whatever: Nor have we the leaſt reaſon to doubt, but that the Project of a *Neutral Army*, ſo often mention'd in the *Foreign Prints*, for preſerving the Peace of the *North*, would have been ſet on foot on the ſide of *Germany*, had not a very important *Diverſion* interven'd. But when the contending *Proteſtant Powers* had ſufficiently tir'd and worry'd one another, whether the *Catholick Lookers-on* would have ſtrictly obſerv'd their pacifick Temper, and kept cloſe to the *Neutral* State, may very juſtly be made a Queſtion: I rather think, the *Eagle* would have behav'd himſelf in this Caſe, as he did in the War between the *Frogs* and *Mice*, and very graciouſly have decided the Quarrel, by devouring both Combatants. At leaſt, I cannot help believing that a *Proteſtant* Force would be more heartily *Neutral*, and fitter to keep the Peace among *Proteſtants*, than thoſe, whoſe Principle and Practice it is, to make the Reformed the Executioners of their Brethren, and whenever they march to their Relief, to cut the Survivors Throats, or pay themſelves with the Plunder of *Hereticks*, for the Trouble of collecting it.

Her Majeſty and the *Preſent Miniſtry* muſt undoubtedly look on the Bloodſhed, Ravages, and Confuſion, that at preſent overſpread the *North*, with Eyes of Pity and Compaſſion; and unleſs obſtructed by thoſe, whoſe private Intereſt and Ambition is more dear to them than the Name of *Proteſtant*, will heal up theſe gaping Wounds, and provide a timely Remedy for this growing Evil: That the Ballance of Power may be kept up between the *Reformation* and *Popery*, and ſuch Alliances be preſerv'd, as were ever thought advantageous to *Great Britain*, ſuch as our *Kings* and *Queens*, from the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth* downwards, have ever been careful to maintain and cultivate, and which may be of equal Service with others, nearer home, for the Intereſt and Security of the *Proteſtant Succeſſion*. By what Meaſures and Councels this good Work may be brought about, muſt be left to the ſuperior Wiſdom of thoſe, who have done ſuch Wonders already to ſave and make us happy. We cannot be too Daring and Preſumptuous in our Expectations of what is further intended for the Repoſe and Welfare of *Europe*, by ſo good a *Queen*, and ſuch wiſe *Councellors*; who are the Preſervers and Ornaments of that *Church*, which is the Glory and Bullwark of the *Reformation*. For, GOD be praiſed, we are not now in the ſame Hands, who would ſell the *Proteſtant Cauſe* to a *Royal Renegado*, that had before barter'd it away for a *Dependent Mercenary Crown*; for to a Race of *Savages*, as little acquainted with the true Value, either of the *Reformation* or of *Chriſtianity*, as themſelves.

Her Majeſty's Tender and Motherly Care of our moſt Holy *Religion*, knows no Bounds nor Intermiſſion: It keeps even Pace with the extenſive Influence of *Her* Councels, and the Glory of *Her* Arms. Of this we have a recent Proof, and very gracious Inſtance, in *Her* procuring the Enlargement of ſuch of the *Reformed*, as were condemn'd to the *Gallies* in *France*, on account of their Religion: Of whoſe Names an *Authentick Liſt* is now Publiſh'd and handed about. Nothing of this kind is to be met with in the Conduct and Proceedings of the *Ryſwick* and *Gertruydenberg Proteſtants*; and therefore we may be induced to hope, that the *French Refugees*, whom we have ſhelter'd in our Boſom, and who are now number'd with our own People, will, by their future Demeanor, make the proper Returns of Gratitude to *Her Majeſty*, and thoſe in Authority under *Her*, and expreſs, by the moſt dutiful Proofs, the Senſe they have of *Her* Royal Goodneſs and Clemency to their Brethren. I can only wiſh, that thoſe, who value themſelves upon *former Friendſhips*, and are ſtill pleaſed to be called our *good Allies*, would in this at leaſt follow the Example of *France*, and make us the ſame handſome Compliment, or ſomething Equivalent to it, in *Hungary* and *Sileſia*. Let it never more be ſaid, that the Government has any ill Deſign againſt the *Toleration at home*, ſince we find them ſo willing to enlarge their Regard for tender Conſciences in favour of the *Reform'd abroad*, and to extend their Indulgence to a Kingdom not our own, and a People ſo very lately at War with us. With what Face ſhall thoſe, truly *High-Churchmen*, appear among their Fellow-Subjects, and be admitted into the beſt Favours of a perverſe *Faction*, who dare Queſtion *Her Majeſty's* Authority to appoint *Faſts* or *Feſtivals* in the Church, when we ſee the Mighty *Lewis*, the *Terror* of the *Proteſtant Name*, in ſpite of all his *Jeſuits*, ſubmitting to the *Head of the Reformed Church* in Matters of Religion? I make no doubt but *Her Majeſty's* Name will be mention'd, next the *Almighty's*, with all Thankfulneſs, in the Devout Prayers and Addreſſes of thoſe, whom Her Piety has reſcued from Miſery and Bondage, tho' they are out of *Her* Dominions, and owe *Her* no other Allegiance but Gratitude; when at the ſame time, ſo many of *Her* own unnatural Subjects ſhall ſtill go on to Revile *Her* Adminiſtration, and fill the Ears of *Her* People with the Din and Clamour of *Popery*. Had the Numbers of theſe poor Wretches bore any proportion to the Accounts and Liſts of the *Whigs*, which both at home and abroad carry the ſame irreconcileable Antipathy to Truth, this Act of Royal Clemency had been equal to the Example of *Cyrus*; but it far exceeded him, as it turn'd upon a more noble Motive and Principle, being as much the Effect of true Religion, as of exalted Humanity. Never was there a more generous Attempt made upon the *Salick* Law; and after this, ſince *Popery* has loſt Ground in *France*, what reaſon can we have to apprehend the Progreſs of it in *England*?

ADVERTISEMENT.

Juſt Publiſhed,

*** The Names of all the French Proteſtants that were in the Gallies upon account of Religion only, and have been diſcharged by Order of the Moſt Chriſtian King, at the Inſtance of Her Majeſty. Price Three Half Pence.

LONDON: Printed for *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*. 1713.